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| 2  | UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT   |     |
| 3  | SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK  |     |
| 4  | Case No. 12-12020-mg   |     |
| 5  | x  |     |
| 6  | In the Matter of:  |     |
| 7  |  |     |
| 8  | RESIDENTIAL CAPITAL, LLC, et al.,  |     |
| 9  |  |     |
| 10 | Debtors.   |     |
| 11 |  |     |
| 12 | x  |     |
| 13 |  |     |
| 14 | United States Bankruptcy Court   |     |
| 15 | One Bowling Green  |     |
| 16 | New York, New York   |     |
| 17 |  |     |
| 18 | March 26, 2014   |     |
| 19 | 3:00 PM  |     |
| 20 |  |     |
| 21 | BEFORE:  |     |
| 22 | HON. MARTIN GLENN  |     |
| 23 | U.S. BANKRUPTCY JUDGE  |     |
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## PROCEEDINGS

THE COURT: All right. This is Judge Glenn. We're on the record in Residential Capital, number 12-12020. This is a telephone hearing at the request of the Court in connection with the objection to the claim of Daniel G. (sic) and Marcene Burgin. It's claim number 4494 and the Court issued a memorandum opinion and supplemental order regarding that claim on March 17th, 2014.

Who's on the phone?

MR. WISHNEW: Good afternoon, Your Honor. Jordan Wishnew at Morrison & Foerster for the ResCap Borrower Claims Trust.

THE COURT: Okay. And for the Burgins?

MS. BURGIN: Yes. Marcene Burgin.

THE COURT: Thank you, Ms. Burgin.

Ms. Burgin, did you have a chance to review the memorandum opinion and supplemental order that I entered?

MS. BURGIN: Yes, I did.

THE COURT: Okay. So I need to have a better understanding of what your claim is, and also, as I indicated in the short opinion, Mr. Wishnew, I don't really have a full understanding of what's been described as the checking account feature of the HELOC loan.

Ms. Burgin, let me ask you first. After GMAC froze the HELOC line of credit, did you continue to make regular

monthly payments of the minimum amount?

MS. BURGIN: Yes, Your Honor, we did. That was set up as an automatic withdrawal from our account from day one. So they just, you know, would take it out at the same day every month. So there was never a time when there was any lapse in that.

THE COURT: Okay. When you say an automatic withdrawal from your account, what -- from -- is this a totally separate checking account of yours or something?

MS. BURGIN: Yes.

THE COURT: Okay. So this is not an account that was with the lenders on the HELOC?

MS. BURGIN: No. No, we did have another checking account.

THE COURT: Okay.

MS. BURGIN: And then, that was required by them, actually, that they could take our payments out of at the same time each month. That was separate from the checking account that was connected.

We would then take our income and deposit it into the HELOC loan.

THE COURT: So when you say you would deposit your income, was this -- did you deposit amounts in excess of the minimum required monthly payments?

MS. BURGIN: You know, I'm sorry, Your Honor, that --

it's kind of a fuzzy connection. Could you repeat that question? THE COURT: Yes, I can.

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MS. BURGIN: I'm sorry.

THE COURT: I can. Okay.

So this was what I was a little confused about. Were you making monthly deposits in excess of the minimum required monthly payments?

MS. BURGIN: Yes, we were.

THE COURT: Okay. And at some point, did GMAC prevent you from doing that? That's what I couldn't understand as to whether -- because you say that you weren't permitted to make the deposits by. I'm just trying to get a better understanding of what it is you're saying.

MS. BURGIN: Yes. Yes, I understand it. It was -- it was kind of a different type of a loan.

So the way it worked is you would deposit money into that -- so that's where it's a little different. You know, the line of credit is a part of it but the checking account feature is sort of separate from that in that we would deposit our income into the -- I guess it's the HELOC account, and then we would actually pay our bills out of that account. We had a separate checkbook for that account.

And so when they froze our account, it took the money that we had in there and also it stopped that ability that we

had to use that account to, you know, pay bills and do other investing. So that part was separate.

The line of credit, in my mind, was fine. They did have every right to close that; that was in the loan docs. And that's different because the line of credit would be money that we were using that they advanced us and then we were writing checks against that. But that's not what this part was. This was only money that we had deposited from our own income, and we were not asking to write more than we were depositing but they froze what we had deposited and then closed that checking account.

THE COURT: So let me just -- to be sure I understand before I have Mr. Wishnew speak to it, you -- do I understand that you wanted to write checks against monthly deposits that were in excess of the minimum required payments each month?

MS. BURGIN: Yes.

THE COURT: Okay. So this is not a --

MS. BURGIN: That we had already -- money that we were depositing. So actually, I guess I'm not sure what you mean by deposits.

We would deposit -- at that time, we were depositing approximately 5,000 dollars a month into that account. It would vary a little bit each month with our income but we were depositing that. So then we would use that account. That would go against our principal, therefore, lowering the

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interest on the loan, which was the reason that we went for that particular loan product, and then we would pay our bills from that. We would write checks from that loan account but it was all money that we were depositing monthly. THE COURT: So how much was the monthly -- the minimum required monthly payment? MS. BURGIN: That was an interest-only on the loan so it varied some. It usually right around 1,000 dollars a month. THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Wishnew, can you -- do you want to address these issues? MR. WISHNEW: I guess, obviously, we were concerned that we could not -- once we froze the account, we wanted to ensure that there wasn't a further -- I guess a further increase in the balance on the account. And so that would have been why we would have stopped use of the checking accounts. But again, having learned some of these facts now, I'd have to verify that with the company. THE COURT: Yes. I mean because here's the -- here's where --MR. WISHNEW: I guess, Your Honor, maybe --THE COURT: Let me just -- just stop a second, Mr. Wishnew. What I wasn't clear about, and Ms. Burgin has addressed that, is that the Burgins were depositing -- were

paying into the account, depositing into the account amounts in

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excess each month of the minimum required payment. And
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    correctly or incorrectly, they believed that they had the
    ability to write checks against the amount of those excess
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    deposits. And I guess they're saying that to the extent
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    they're writing checks against the excess deposits, that's not
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    an advance under the loan. Is that what you're telling me, Ms.
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    Burgin?
             MS. BURGIN: Yes, Your Honor. That's accurate.
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             THE COURT: Okay.
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             MS. BURGIN: Um-hum.
             THE COURT: And so, Mr. Wishnew, that's what I -- and
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    I tried to -- I surmised that and I think sort of got it
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    correctly in the opinion that that seemed to be what the
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    Burgins are complaining about, that's what they allege is the
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    breach of contract that you couldn't do that. But I have to
    tell you, Ms. Burgin, that -- so initially, you didn't attach
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    the whole HELOC agreement and I did order the debtor to produce
    it and they did and I assume you agree that they correctly
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    attached a copy of the HELOC? Do you --
             MS. BURGIN: Well, I don't believe I -- do I have a --
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    I don't know that I have a copy that they attached.
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             MR. WISHNEW: We would have served it
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    contemporaneously with service on the Court; I can honestly
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THE COURT: Well, hold on. We'll come to -- because

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resend it today.

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this is not -- I'm not definitively deciding anything today.
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    All right.
             MR. WISHNEW: Of course.
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             THE COURT: But, Ms. Burgin, what I read -- do you
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    have a copy of the entire HELOC agreement? You had originally
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    attached two pages.
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             MS. BURGIN: Yes.
             THE COURT: And then you attached two other pages but
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    not the whole thing.
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             MS. BURGIN: Yes, I do --
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             THE COURT: Okay.
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             MS. BURGIN: -- Your Honor.
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             THE COURT: So what it looked like, when I read the
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    agreement, because the agreement had a provision about the
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    minimum monthly required payments and we've talked about that,
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    but allowed you to pay more than that. And so when you
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    deposited amounts in excess of the minimum monthly payments, it
    was your intention, as I'm hearing it today, to reduce the
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    outstanding principal balance of the loan and, thereby, reduce
    the continued amount of accruing interest. Am I correct in
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    that?
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             MS. BURGIN: Yes, Your Honor, that's correct.
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             THE COURT: Okay. So, you know, when I read the
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    agreement then, once you make a deposit and use it to reduce
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    the balance of the loan, one argument is it's their money now.
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You've deposited it. You used it to reduce the balance of the loan and anything you want to draw from the account is a new advance which they've frozen. I mean that's the issue.

What I don't have, I don't know whether I have all of the information or disclosure documents that were provided to the Burgins when this account was set up. So what I ultimately got was the HELOC agreement, which includes some disclosures, but got the HELOC agreement. I don't know -- the Burgins are saying that the debtors breached the contract because there is this separate checking account feature that permitted them to use it as a checking account.

And, Mr. Wishnew, can you address these issues for me?

MR. WISHNEW: At this point in time, I don't know if

I'm in the best position and I would prefer to take another

closer look at the agreement and discuss it with the debtors to

address these points.

THE COURT: Okay. Ms. Burgin, is there anything else you want to add now?

MS. BURGIN: Only, Your Honor, that in a conventional line of credit situation, it is true that you would normally, I suppose, what money you'd put down would go strictly to the amount of the loan and -- but in this particular loan product, that became a very fluid amount. You would put your income in there and then you would write checks against it. So it was -- the interest was calculated on a daily basis and it would

change as you deposited money and then as you, you know, wrote checks against the account so your interest was figured separately every day. So very unconventional way of doing it, I know. But the nice thing about that was that it was -- it was lowering your interest but yet it wasn't money that was -- like, you put it in there and then that froze it to be against the loan. You would then be able to use it for other things on an ongoing basis.

THE COURT: See, that's what I don't see in the HELOC agreement, okay. Because when I read the HELOC agreement, I see how you can pay in each month amounts in excess of the minimum required. So from reading the agreement, the issue, then, is well, what's the status of that additional money? Can you continue to write checks against it or -- and I said this in footnote 6 of the opinion, I say, "From a review of the HELOC agreement, it appears that each check written by the Burgins was an advance against the line of credit increasing the loan balance. When the HELOC was frozen, preventing any new loan advances, the Burgins could not write checks against the account." The footnote goes on and I'll stop the quote there.

And that's where -- do you have any other documentation that was provided to you with an explanation of this checking account feature?

MS. BURGIN: I will go back and, if that's

permissible, here, and review all of the documents and see how it describes that. I -- because I did read your footnote there and the part that was incorrect, to some degree, is that let's say we deposited 5,000 dollars in there and then the next day we wrote a check for, you know, a 100 dollars' worth of groceries. That didn't increase the loan amount by that hundred dollars that we wrote the check for. That would just be, basically, subtracted from the 5,000 that we had just put in.

THE COURT: That's what I don't -- that's what -- from reading the agreement itself, the argument you just made didn't appear consistent with the language but I'm not ruling on anything now, Ms. Burgin. I just --

MS. BURGIN: Um-hum.

THE COURT: Look, here's what I want to happen, okay.

I definitely want to give you and your husband, Ms. Burgin, a
fair chance to support your claim. And from the debtors'
standpoint, or the trust standpoint now, I want to give you the
fair opportunity to object to the claim.

What I've never gotten from the debtors is a fuller explanation and declarations and any documentation that explains this checking account feature. And I don't know, Mr. Wishnew, for example, whether there's material, marketing material, that was sent to people like the Burgins when they set up this account that explains how they can use it.

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So once the -- let me ask you this -- a couple more
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    questions, Ms. Burgin. Once the debtors froze the account, you
    must have found out pretty quickly they weren't going to honor
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    any checks you wrote on it. Is that a fair statement?
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             MS. BURGIN: Yes.
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             THE COURT: Okay.
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             MS. BURGIN: Yes.
             THE COURT: So did you stop depositing your income
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    into the account?
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             MS. BURGIN: We had to. They closed it. Yes.
             THE COURT: Well, they didn't -- I mean, they didn't
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    close it, did they? They froze the account; they didn't close
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    it. Did they close it at some point?
             MS. BURGIN: Yes. I believe it was closed.
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             THE COURT: Well, you still have a loan --
             MS. BURGIN: Because they also stopped honoring checks
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    that we had written against it. They would send them back
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    saying that the account had been closed.
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             THE COURT: All right. What is it that you're
    claiming is your damages?
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             MS. BURGIN: Monetary or are you looking for --
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             THE COURT: Yeah. I want to know -- because you filed
    a claim for money and I want to know what it is -- that's
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    unclear to me what it is you're seeking.
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             MS. BURGIN: Well, here's -- you know, and I
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understand that it's hard to pin down, you know, what the 1 2 actual monetary implications would be. So the way I looked at it, I just -- I took the amount -- the loan originated in May 3 4 of 2007 and they closed the account in November of 2008. So 5 there were eighteen months that went by there. So I just 6 looked at it as if we had been putting in -- I took the amount 7 that we had run through that account monthly, so it was approximately -- it varied somewhat each month -- but 8 9 approximately 5,000 dollars a month. So if we had been putting 10 that through the account for the 64 months that have transpired since then, we would have run, approximately, 320,000 dollars 11 12 through the account. 13 And the hard part that I had in figuring out is, okay, 14 so what does that mean, you know. How would that have -- how 15 much would that have changed the loan balance? And I'm not --16 I'm not sure there. So --17 THE COURT: This is writing checks against -- you maybe have put 300,000 dollars in but you're writing checks --18 19 MS. BURGIN: Right. 20 THE COURT: -- against that every month. 21 MS. BURGIN: Yes. So there isn't, like, a, you know, the amount is kind of an incalculable number because it would 22

So by closing that account, it also forced us to go

have affected the interest rate and the principal but I don't

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know how much.

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out and, you know, seek independent banking, it caused a loss
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    of the continuity in how we were doing our business at that
    time and then it froze those funds that caused a business
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    opportunity loss that we were working with at the same time
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    because then we couldn't go out -- then we had that 450,000-
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    dollar debt against us but couldn't go out and get additional
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    financing. So it kind of changed our whole --
             THE COURT: Well, you agreed, though, the way I read
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    your papers, you agreed that they could freeze the line of
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    credit?
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             MS. BURGIN: Yes.
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             THE COURT: Okay.
             MS. BURGIN: Yes. I do believe that that's in the
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    contract and that, you know, I could completely understand.
             THE COURT: Okay. And I take it you're not disputing
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    that the value of your property declined? How much, I don't
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    know, but everybody's property declined in value.
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             MS. BURGIN: Yes. Yes. Um-hum.
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             THE COURT: Okay. So --
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             MS. BURGIN: And that part, yes, you know, I
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    understand that completely too. I do dispute the fact that
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    they said we were late on payments because that never happened.
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             THE COURT: I want to raise that question, okay.
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    We're going to get to that in a minute.
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             MS. BURGIN: Okay. So I'm sorry, so to answer your
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question, you know, what I would -- I was trying to think what
could I propose that would be a fair, you know, way of -- we
would like to just get past this, get a settlement, and have
something where ResCap can, you know, make money on that loan
and yet we can afford to keep our home.
         THE COURT: Let me put it this --
         MS. BURGIN: So --
         THE COURT: -- let me stop you because --
        MS. BURGIN: Um-hum.
         THE COURT: -- I encourage parties to settle but
because I may have to decide issues of fact, I don't inject
myself into settlements. I encourage you to talk to Mr.
Wishnew and see whether you can reach a settlement, but I will
get -- I won't be involved in that, okay. That's why I just
want to stop you there. I fully encourage you to do that, all
right, but not with me, okay, because --
         MS. BURGIN: Okay. So that would be one of the
attorneys that's present now?
         THE COURT: Yes. Mr. Wishnew can talk to you.
        MR. WISHNEW: Yes. That's me, Ms. Burgin, and I
welcome the opportunity to speak further about that.
         THE COURT: Okay.
         MS. BURGIN: Great. Okay.
         THE COURT: So let me just -- as I've tried to think
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this through, Ms. Burgin, I'm trying -- okay. Let's assume it

was a breach of contract, and then I try to think well, what's 1 2 the damages the Burgins have suffered? They really haven't disputed that it was proper for GMAC to freeze the line and 3 4 once it got frozen, they stopped depositing the excess funds 5 in. And because the loan balance would remain high, it was still an interest-only period, you're saying you incurred 6 7 additional interest costs by not being able to deposit more each month, reduce the principal balance, have it increase when 8 you wrote checks but net to reduce your interest expense. 9 10 That's essentially what I read your papers to say. Is that a 11 fair statement? 12 MS. BURGIN: Yes. 13 THE COURT: Okay. 14 MS. BURGIN: That's a fair statement, Your Honor. 15 hum. THE COURT: And I can see where it would be difficult 16 17 but the burden -- if this goes to an evidentiary hearing, the burden's going to be on you to prove your damages, to liquidate 18 19 the amount of the claim. And it may not be precise but it has to be a reasonable estimation of the claim. 20 21 The fact that you -- I mean nothing stopped -- if

The fact that you -- I mean nothing stopped -- if there was 300,000 that you deposited elsewhere when you couldn't deposit it into the HELOC, you could earn interest on it, you could invest it in alternative investments, you -- so that isn't a fair measure; to the extent you're earning a

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return elsewhere, some of it may have been used to pay your interest here.

Has this loan converted to -- because I think what you said it was five years interest-only and then it converted to a traditional loan?

MS. BURGIN: Yes. It was ten years interest-only.

THE COURT: Ten. Okay.

MS. BURGIN: Um-hum.

THE COURT: Well, here's what I want to happen, I want -- and you don't -- as I understand it, you don't have an attorney, Ms. Burgin. Correct?

MS. BURGIN: That's correct.

THE COURT: Okay. And you've been doing all right without an attorney but I just -- what that means is that Mr. Wishnew, or one of his colleagues, can talk directly with you. If you had an attorney, he wouldn't be permitted. The rules of ethics wouldn't permit him to talk with you directly. But because you're pro se, you don't have an attorney, you're free to talk to him, he's free to talk to you. Okay.

MS. BURGIN: Okay. Great.

THE COURT: And I encourage you to do that. If -- I want to give you a couple of weeks to see whether you could come up with a fair resolution that satisfies both sides.

Okay. And if you can't, Mr. Wishnew and Ms. Burgin, we're going to move this toward an evidentiary hearing. I'm going to

determine it's a contested matter. But I need -- I want to see -- if there are documents that address this so-called "checking account feature," I want to see them because I don't -- you haven't provided them, Mr. Wishnew; I'm not faulting you for not having provided them and Ms. Burgin hasn't provided them.

She's described, in her objection, what her understanding of this checking account feature was, and that is, perhaps, not entirely consistent with the language of the HELOC agreement itself but I'm not making a determination about that. So --

MR. WISHNEW: Understood.

THE COURT: But really what you're talking about is you believe that you and your husband are having to pay more interest than you otherwise would have if you could have continued to use the so-called "checking account feature"? That's, basically -- without quantifying the amount, that's what you're talking about.

MS. BURGIN: Yes. That's correct. And we haven't been able to lower that -- that principal as it would have.

THE COURT: Well, you could because you could -- you could always -- I mean, the way I -- and I don't think the debtors disagree with this, if you wanted to reduce that principal balance, you can make payments in excess of the minimum required and reduce the balance. You can't take it

back out again if you do that but -- so if you wanted to 1 2 deposit 5,000 dollars a month in excess of the minimum required payment, I read the agreement as saying they have to take it 3 4 and it'll be used to reduce the principal balance of the loan. 5 You lose the flexibility of what you're going to do 6 with that money but -- I mean --7 MS. BURGIN: Well --THE COURT: -- have you considered doing that? I 8 mean, you can pay down the loan. You don't have to pay it all 9 10 off but you can start to pay it down. 11 MS. BURGIN: Right. I understand that, Your Honor, 12 but what was in the original loan, let's say that our income 13 was 5,000 dollars in a month and we deposited that into that 14 account and then that lowered the interest daily while that was in there but we were also writing checks against it, then that 15 16 was -- that was lowering our interest liability, thus lowering 17 our principal. 18 Now, with that closed, if we put that into another 19

account and we are paying our bills from it, that is not affecting our principal or our interest on our loan --

THE COURT: Sure, you'd have --

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MS. BURGIN: -- whereas before it did.

THE COURT: -- you'd have to take some of your money and use it to pay down the loan, the balance of the loan. I -- look, I have to tell you, when I read the HELOC agreement

itself, I didn't see provisions that support your interpretation of the checking account. None of it talks about checking account feature. I know they issued you checks. There's no question about that.

So -- look, what I'd like you to do is -- I'll hang up now and you two ought to continue to talk for a little bit without me and you ought to figure out -- maybe work out a time when you can speak further and if it involves a voluntary exchange of information, that's fine.

Mr. Wishnew, I want you to get a date that's convenient for both yourself and Ms. Burgin for another telephone hearing, I'd say, in three weeks. You have to get that from Deanna. But get a date and time that works for Ms. Burgin.

MR. WISHNEW: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: And we'll have another hearing.

This is on the record so there will be a transcript of our hearing today and in the meantime, Mr. Wishnew, you got to be -- you need to talk to your client. You need to get a better understanding, because if you're going to object to this claim, you have -- if you're going to defeat one of the essential elements of Ms. Burgin's claim, you're going to have to refute her explanation of what she understood and it seems reasonable of this checking account feature. So I'm going to want to see whatever documentation there is that explains it

1 and we'll see where we go from there.

Because ultimately, Ms. Burgin, if this goes to a hearing, it's going to be a live hearing, not by telephone; it's going to be a hearing in court and you're going to have to come back here and you have to be prepared to testify or have your husband testify. I'm not going to get into that now, but I don't do evidentiary hearings by telephone.

MS. BURGIN: I see.

THE COURT: Okay. But we're not there yet. I'm hopeful that you and the trust are going to be able to work this issue out. Okay?

MS. BURGIN: Yes. Thank you very much, Your Honor.

THE COURT: All right. So I'm going to hang up now and you two ought to stay on the -- Mr. Wishnew, maybe you can give Ms. -- if somehow we get disconnected our you get disconnected, why don't you give Ms. Burgin your telephone number.

MR. WISHNEW: Sure. Ms. Burgin, if somehow you get disconnected, 212-336-4291.

THE COURT: And that's your direct dial? Is that correct?

MR. WISHNEW: That is as where I'm sitting right now. Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Okay. And were you able to get that down, Ms. Burgin?

## RESIDENTIAL CAPITAL, LLC, ET AL.

MS. BURGIN: I believe so. That was 212-336-4291? MR. WISHNEW: Yes. I think once Judge Glenn hangs up, we should still be on the conference line but if for some reason we disconnect then it means you can reach me at that number. THE COURT: Okay. MS. BURGIN: Okay. Great. THE COURT: Very good. MS. BURGIN: Thanks very much. THE COURT: Thank you very much. We're off the record and I'm going to have the phone hung up. (Whereupon these proceedings were concluded at 3:31 PM) 

CERTIFICATION I, Ellen S. Kolman, certify that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. ELLEN S. KOLMAN AAERT Certified Electronic Transcriber CET\*\*D-568 eScribers 700 West 192nd Street, Suite #607 New York, NY 10040 Date: March 27, 2014